

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND INFORMATIONAL
HEARING AND INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM
(WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0056529-06-0

Permittee: Babcock Genetics LLC

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Babcock Genetics LLC, N6671 County Road XX, Holmen, WI 54636

Receiving Water and Location: Surface water and groundwater within the Black River Watershed in La Crosse County

Brief Facility Description: Babcock Genetics LLC is an existing Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO). It currently has 3,302 animal units (3,929 pigs <55lbs, 5424 pigs >55lbs, 1,325 sows, 418 boars). Babcock Genetics has a total of 680.67 acres available for land application of manure and process wastewater. Of this acreage, 165 acres are owned and 515.67 acres are rented or controlled through contracts, and 679 acres are spreadable. There are no planned operational changes during the next 5-year permit term. Permit construction schedules are proposed for additional groundwater monitoring and evaluation of permanent manure storage and transfer facilities.

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be reissued.

Permit Drafter: Ben J. Uvaas, DNR Oshkosh Service Center, 625 E. Cty Rd Y, Oshkosh, WI 54901, (920) 303-5433, Benjamin.Uvaas@wisconsin.gov

Informational Hearing Date, Time, and Location: March 14, 2019, 10:00 A.M., Holland Town Hall, W7937 Co Rd MH, Holmen, WI 54636

The Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to Section 283.49, Wisconsin Statutes, has scheduled a public informational hearing for the purpose of giving all interested persons an opportunity to make a statement with respect to the proposed permit action, the terms of the nutrient management plan, and the application for this operation.

The hearing officer will conduct the hearing in an orderly fashion and will use procedures specified in Subchapter II of ch. NR 203, Wis. Adm. Code, necessary to insure broad public participation in the hearing. The hearing officer will open the hearing and make a concise statement of the scope and purpose of the hearing and shall state what procedures will be used during the course of the hearing. The hearing officer shall explain the method of notification of the final decision to grant or deny the permit and the methods by which the decision may be reviewed in a public adjudicatory hearing.

The hearing officer may place limits on individual oral statements to insure an opportunity for all persons present to make statements in a reasonable period of time and to prevent undue repetition. The hearing officer may also limit the number of representatives making oral statements on behalf of any person or group. Informational and clarifying questions and oral statements shall be directed through the hearing officer. Cross-examination shall not be allowed.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, the terms of the nutrient management plan, or the application, are invited to do so by attending the public hearing or by submitting any comments or objections in writing to the Department of Natural Resources, at the permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received from members of the public no later than 7 days following the date of this public hearing will be used, along with other information on file and testimony presented at the hearing, in making a final determination. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision regarding permit coverage. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit and fact sheet (if required), the operation's nutrient management plan and application may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (920) 303-5433 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

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